



CHAOS!
COMICS



FEAR ITSELF

4 \$2.95

MONTHLY
OCT '98 shaw001

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15 MONTHS
UNTIL THE END

BREWER
CURTIS
JENSEN

EVIL ERNIE®

FEAR ITSELF PART 1

Story So Far

Evil Ernie has returned to the east coast following his battle with the ancient Egyptian vampiress, Purgatori. His relationship with the reluctant vampire assassin Chastity is over, and now he must face his past. As a direct result of Purgatori's mental invasion, Evil Ernie is prepared to come to terms with repressed memories in an attempt to learn more about his deadly powers. But the secrets of the past, once unlocked, may open a Pandora's Box which could irrevocably change him forever...

The Creative Ghoul Squad

Created by **Brian Pulido** Written by **Philip Nutman**

Illustrated by **David Brewer** Inked by **Curtis Arnold** Colored by **Jason Jensen**

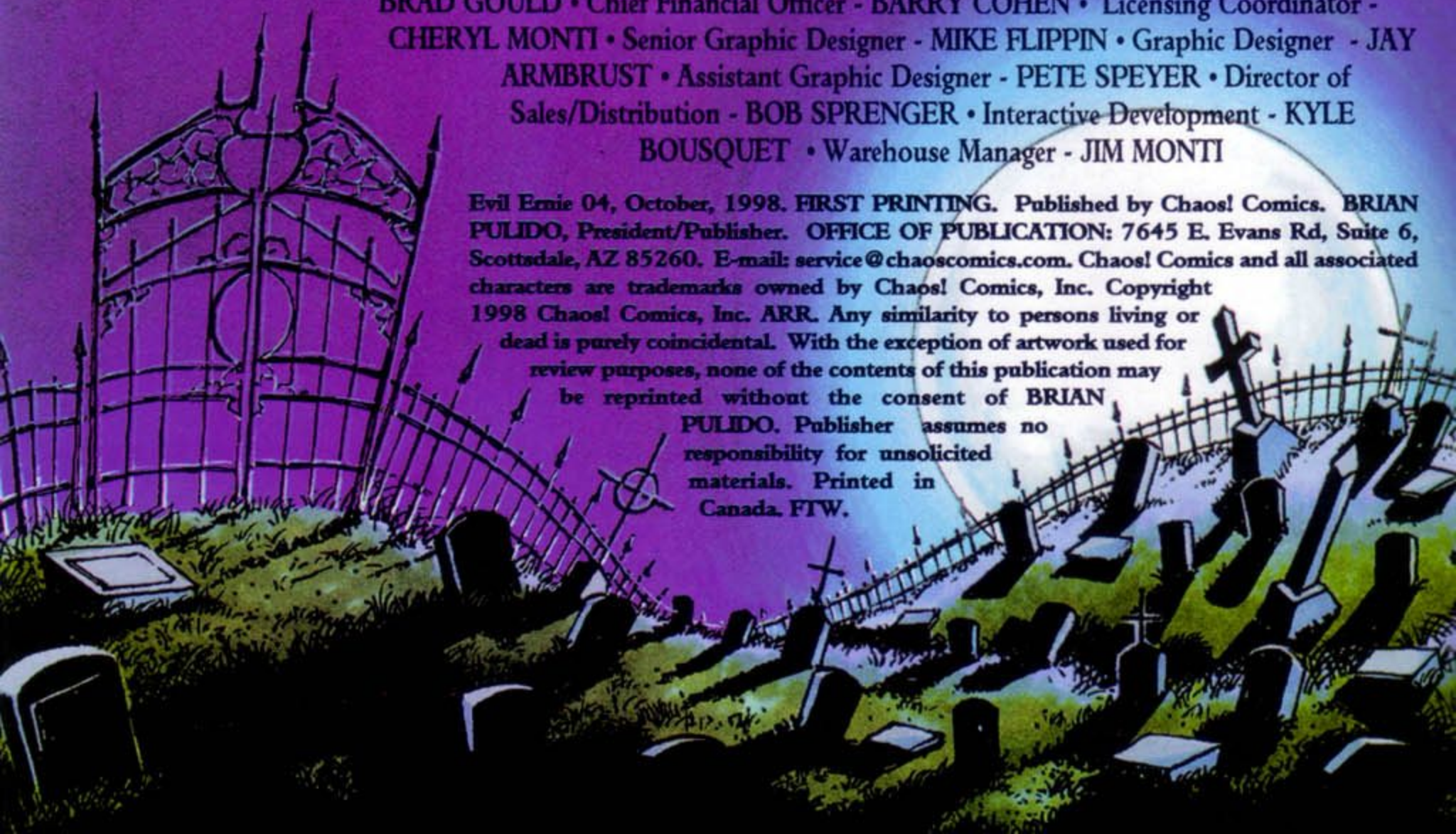
Lettered by **Dave Lanphear with Comicraft's Oscar Gongora**

Cover by **David Brewer, Curtis Arnold & Jason Jensen**

Edited by **Brad Gould & Brian Pulido** Graphic Design by **Jay Armbrust**

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"IT WAS FEAR THAT
FIRST MADE GODS
IN THE WORLD"
-- STATIUS, THEBAIS III

"THE ONLY THING WE HAVE
TO FEAR IS FEAR ITSELF."
-- FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

What's
up with you,
Boss? You've been
silent since we left
L.A. And why the hell
we back here? we got
places to go,
things to
destroy.

LONG BRANCH,
NEW JERSEY.

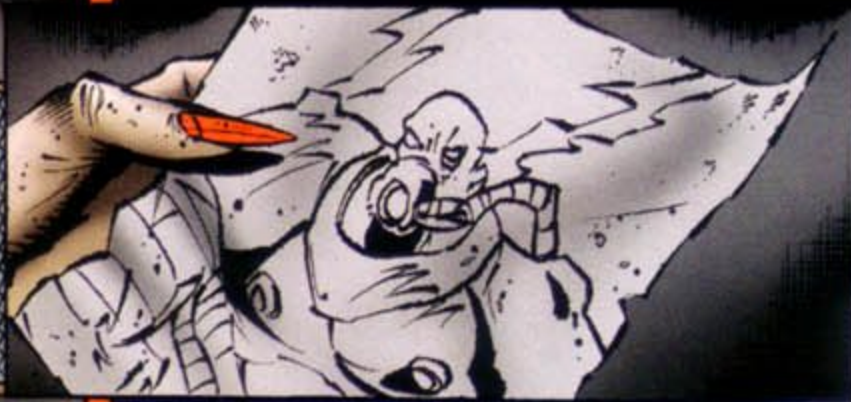
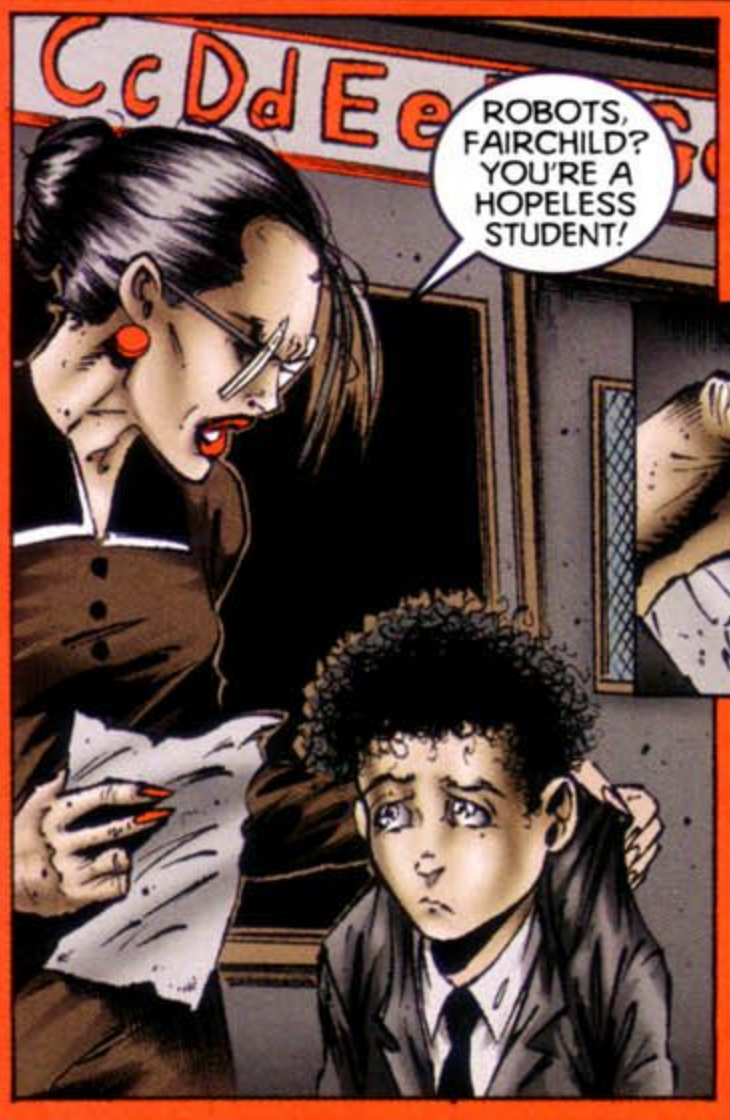
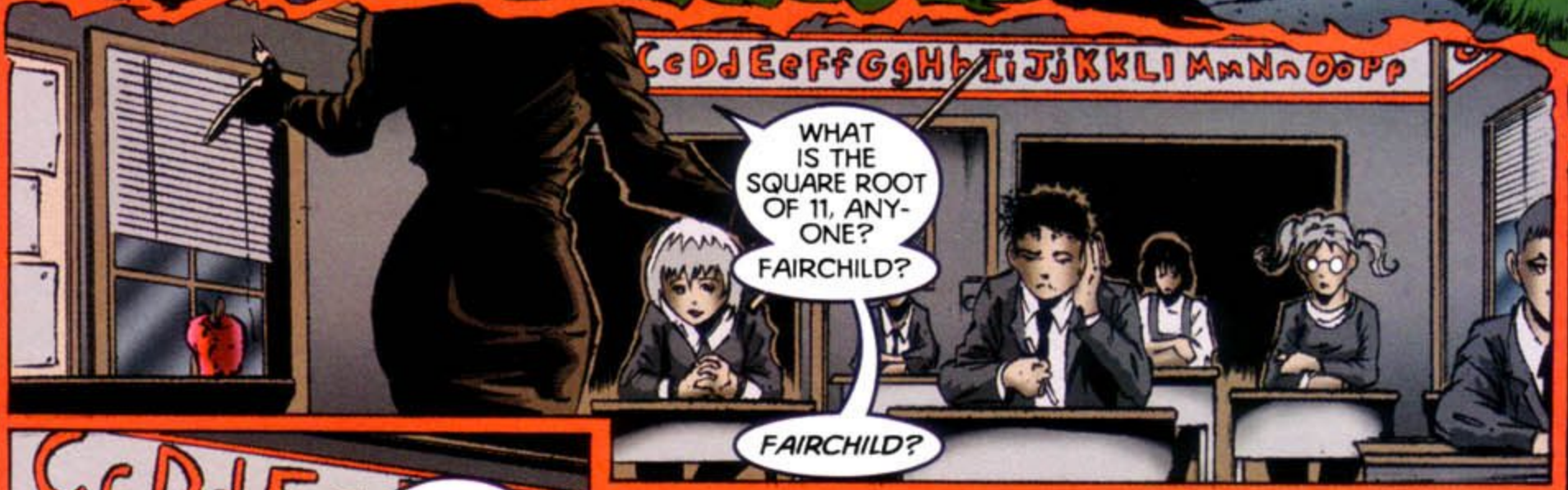
AS THOMAS
WOLFE WROTE:
"YOU CAN'T GO
HOME AGAIN."

NOW PLAYING
PROGNOSIS: NEGATIVE

EVEN THOUGH HE DERIVES A MEASURE OF PLEASURE FROM SEEING THE BIRTH PLACE OF HIS TORMENT LAID TO WASTE, THE VICTORY FEELS HOLLOW.

REVENGE, IT'S BEEN SAID, IS A DESERT BEST EATEN COLD.

TODAY, IT TASTES BITTER-SWEET, AND HE KNOWS HE CAN GORGE ALL HE WANTS, BUT IT ISN'T GOING TO BE ANY MORE FULFILLING THAN SCHOOL CAFETERIA LUNCH.





What're
we doing
here?

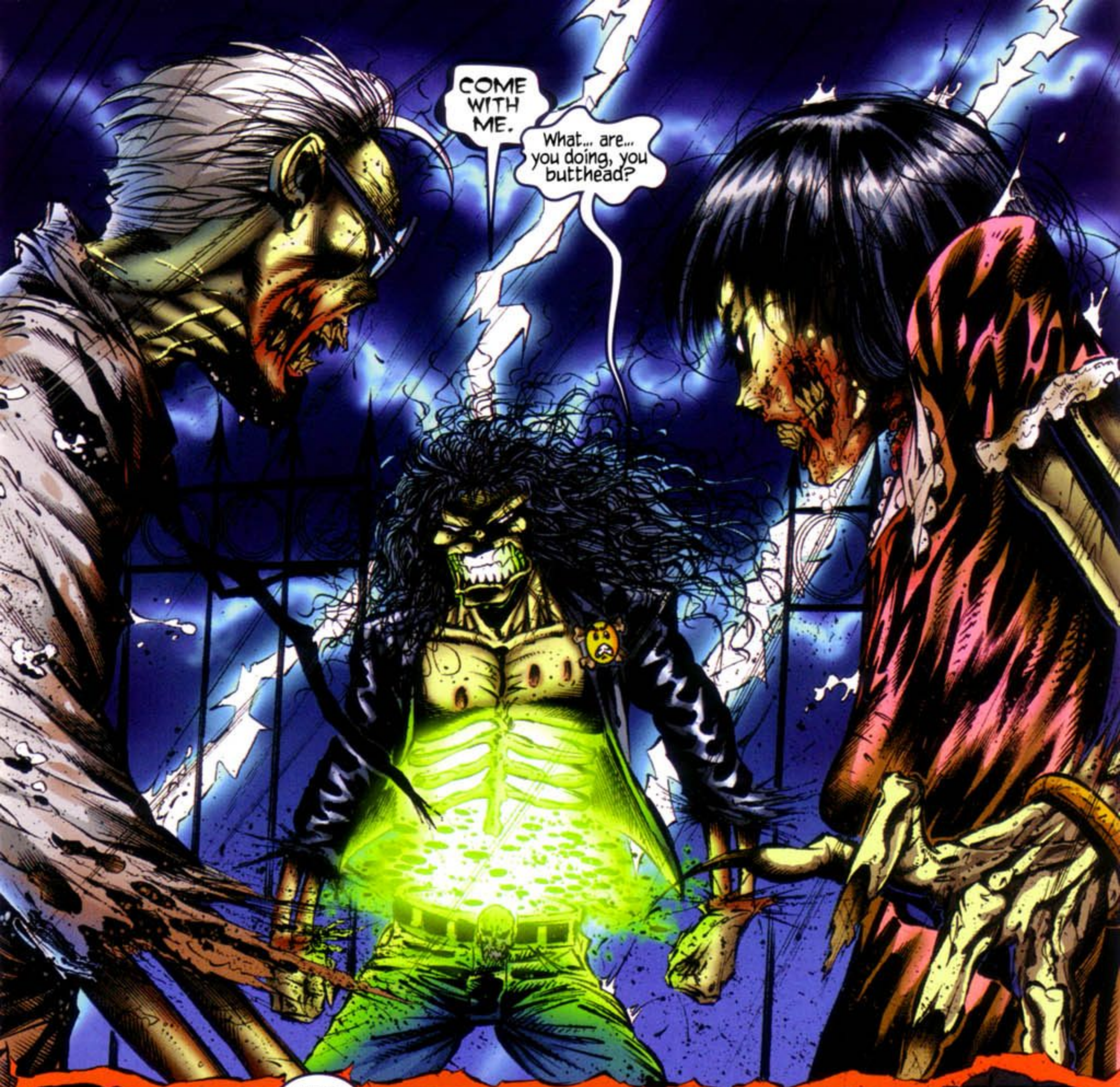


No...
noo...
d-don't...
do... it...



Boss!
Boss -- No!
You're not
going to --





COME
WITH
ME.

What... are...
you doing, you
butthead?

WHY?
LET. US.
REST...





WHY.
REVIVE.
US? YOU
BRAT.

BAD.
BOY.
ERNEST.

SHUT
UP AND
LISTEN.



YOU
MADE ME.
DESERVE
WHAT YOU
GOT.

WHY??



WHY??!

SHOW
ME...



SHOW ME!





NO!
ERNEST!
NO!



NOOO!



SHOW
ME... THINGS
I DON'T
REMEMBER.

Don't
DO IT, Evil --
we don't need
this!

I
DO.



IF THE
CHURCH WON'T
HELP US THEN
WE'LL ADMINISTER
GOD'S WORK
OURSELVES.



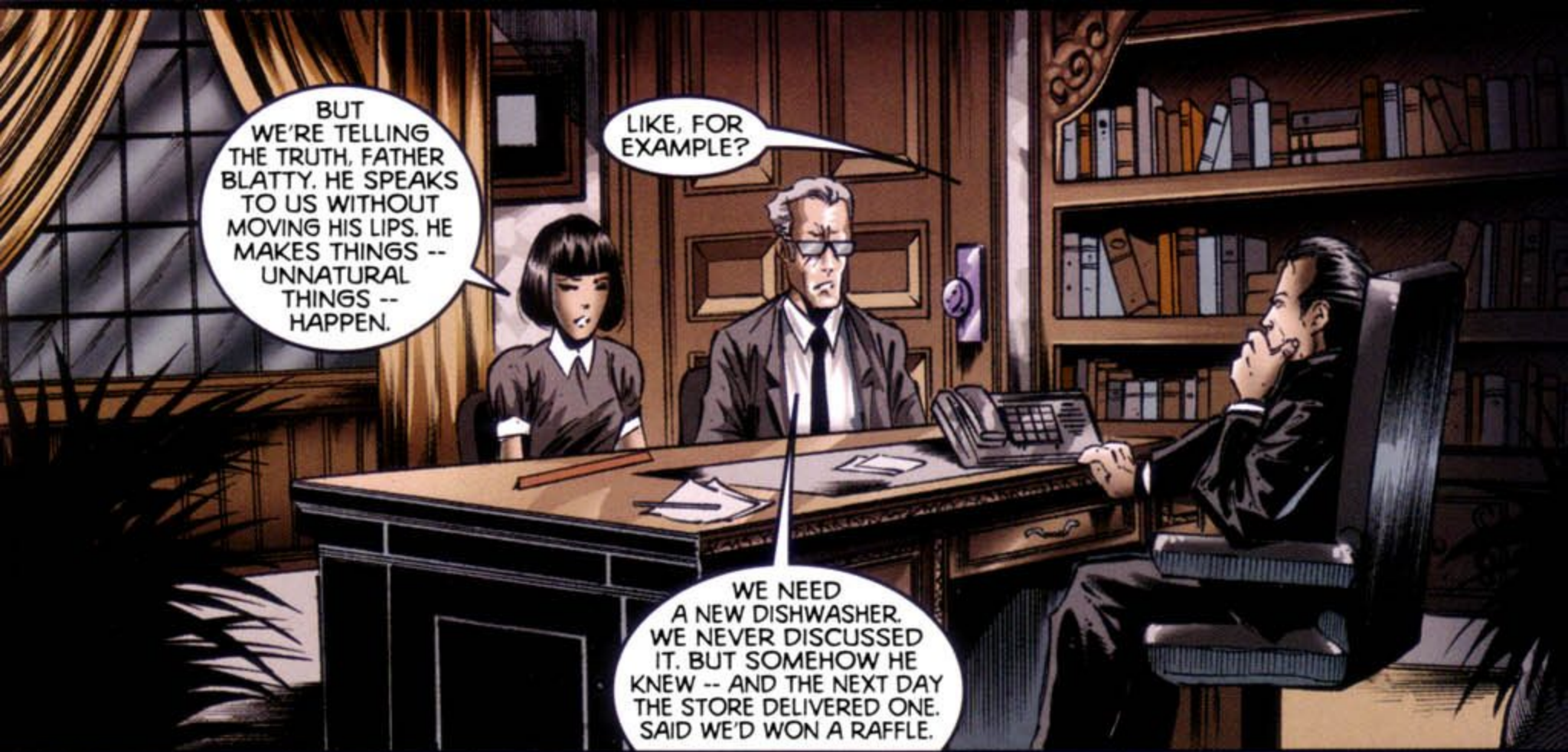
WE'LL
BEAT AND
BURN THE
DEVIL OUT
OF HIM.



TONIGHT'S
THE NIGHT,
BOY!
WE'RE
GOING TO
FREE YOU
FROM YOUR
EVIL
URGES.



NO
GO BACK...
FURTHER...



BUT WE'RE TELLING THE TRUTH, FATHER BLATTY. HE SPEAKS TO US WITHOUT MOVING HIS LIPS. HE MAKES THINGS -- UNNATURAL THINGS -- HAPPEN.

LIKE, FOR EXAMPLE?

WE NEED A NEW DISHWASHER. WE NEVER DISCUSSED IT. BUT SOMEHOW HE KNEW -- AND THE NEXT DAY THE STORE DELIVERED ONE. SAID WE'D WON A RAFFLE.



SOUNDS WONDERFUL.

→HRUMPH←
WELL, YES, BUT IT SOUNDS RATHER COINCIDENTAL. I DON'T SEE HOW THE SUDDEN APPEARANCE OF A DISHWASHER QUALIFIES AS EVIDENCE OF DEMONIC POSSESSION.



BUT YOU SEE -- THAT'S IT! HE MAKES THINGS **APPEAR**.

HE DRAWS THINGS AND THEN THEY HAPPEN.



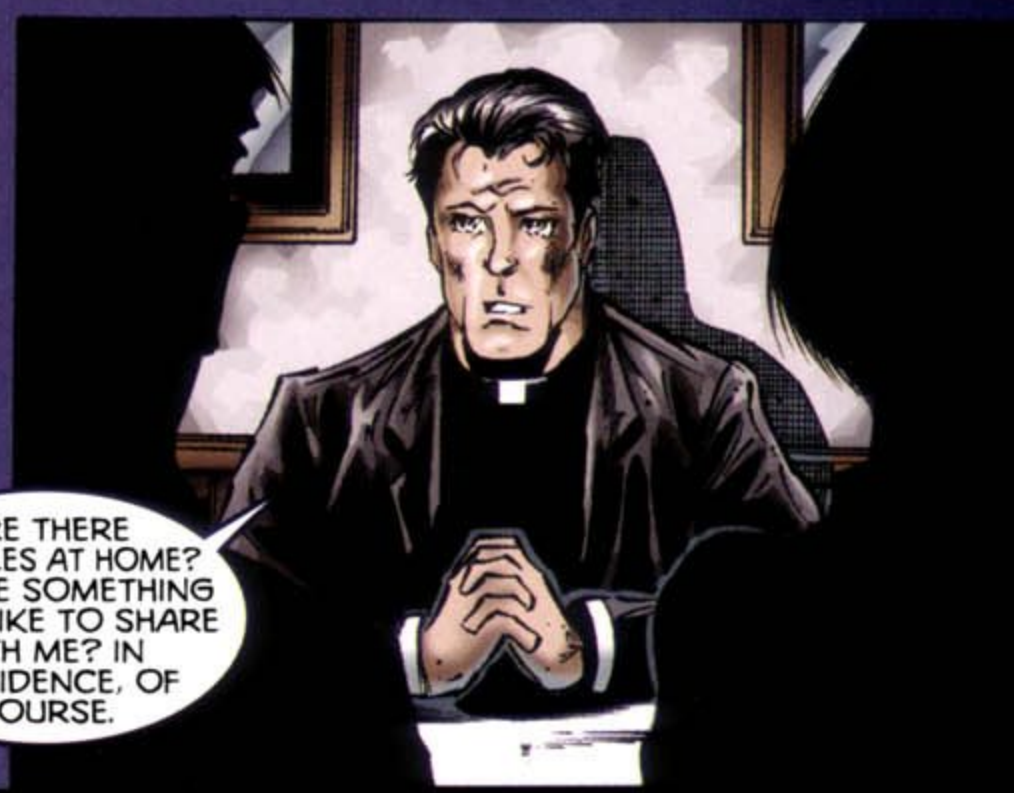
SEE?!

A CHARMING COINCIDENCE.

COME NOW, Mrs. FAIRCHILD. A COINCIDENCE.

YOUNG ERNEST IS A SENSITIVE BOY. HE'S ALWAYS VERY POLITE AND THOUGHTFUL. BUT... HE APPEARS QUITE WITHDRAWN FOR HIS AGE, LIKE HE HAS THE WEIGHT OF THE WORLD ON HIS SHOULDERS.

IT'S UNNATURAL!



ARE THERE TROUBLES AT HOME? IS THERE SOMETHING YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE WITH ME? IN CONFIDENCE, OF COURSE.



HELLO. YOU'RE ERNEST FAIRCHILD AREN'T YOU?

Huh?



HE DOESN'T LOOK WEIRD. ACTUALLY, HE'S KINDA CUTE.

ERR... ERM...

HI. I'M KATE. MY FAMILY JUST MOVED ONTO YOUR BLOCK LAST WEEK.

IT'S OKAY. I DON'T BITE.

ER... HI, Um...



SHE... SHE LIKES ME? SHE'S NOT AFRAID OF ME?

MIND IF I SIT DOWN?

THIS IS A COOL PLACE. I LIKE GRAVEYARDS. THEY'RE SO PEACEFUL.

Y... YEAH. I GUESS.



YEP. DEFINITELY CUTE. HE'LL BE QUITE A DISH WHEN HE'S OLDER.

I HEAR YOU LIKE TO DRAW. WHAT YOU SKETCHING?

JUST STUFF.

CAN I SEE?



COOL. LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF "LORD OF THE RINGS".

ERNEST!



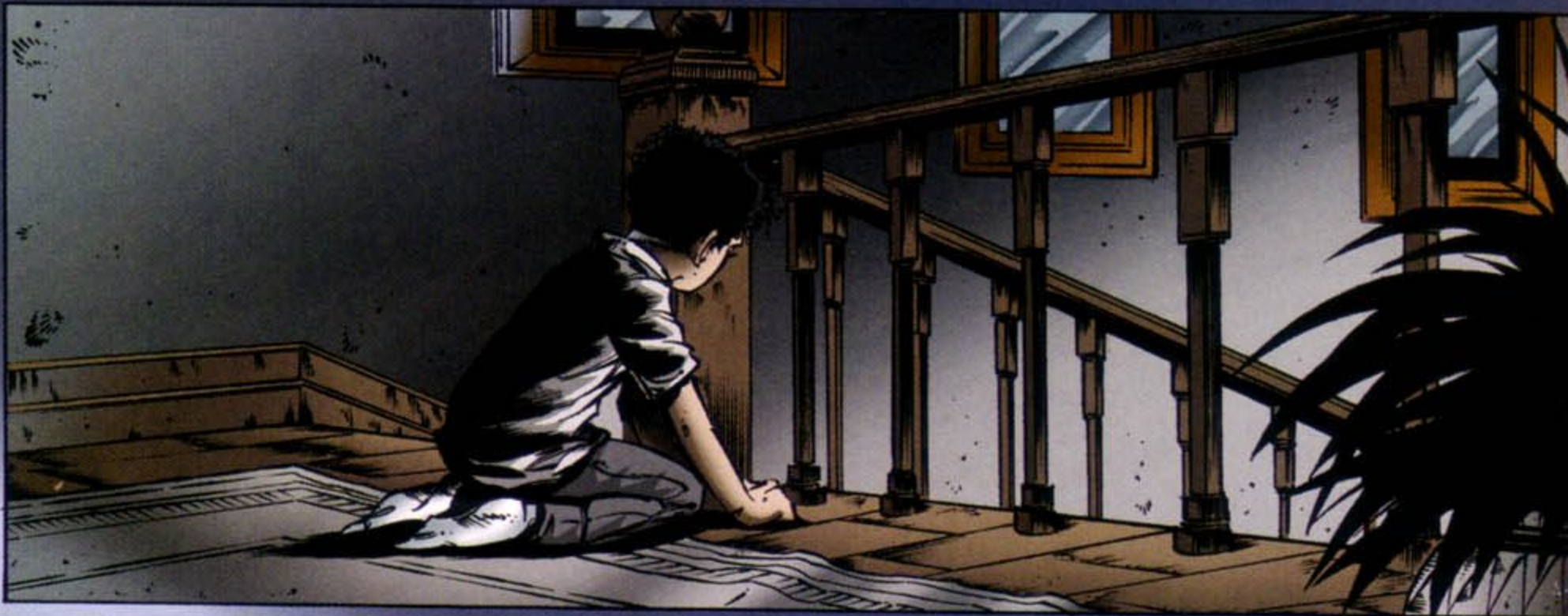
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU NOT TO COME HERE?!

BUT MOM!

Oh!









I HAD TO DO IT, INGRID. THERE WAS NO OPTION. WE LOST THE WELTMAN INDUSTRIES ACCOUNT.

TIME'S ARE TOUGH FOR EVERYONE. I'M SURE THEY UNDERSTAND. THEY KNOW YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, HAROLD.

BUT LETTING GO HALF THE WORK FORCE?

I DON'T KNOW IF THE MILL'S GOING TO SURVIVE.



WELL, LET ME TURN A BAD DAY INTO A GOOD ONE.

HOW?

I'M PREGNANT.



WHAT? THAT'S WONDERFUL!

THAT'S IT, FAIRCHILD. YOU'RE OUT. YOU'RE BANKRUPT AND WE'RE FORECLOSING ON THE MILL.

YOU CAN'T! I... I --



SORRY, PAL. IT'S OVER!



HOME SWEET HOME



DON'T DRINK, HAROLD. PLEASE. YOU KNOW HOW DRINK DESTROYED YOUR FATHER. PLEASE, DARLING!

HE WAS... A FAILURE... AN'... I'M A FAILURE, TOO.

NO -- NO YOU'RE NOT!



OFF!

WHAP

LEMME ALONE...



WHAT AM I GOING TO DO? HAROLD -- DON'T DO WHAT YOUR FATHER DID -- DON'T BECOME HIM!



STOP... PLEASE STOP!

I'M A FAILURE!

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?



DAD... DADDY? WHAT'S W-W-WRONG?

GET AWAY FROM ME, YA LITTLE SMART-ASS!

YOU THINK YOU'RE SO PERFECT!



LEMME TELL YOU SOMETHING, LITTLE MISTER!

THE SON OF THE FATHER IS JUST LIKE HIS DADDY!

YOU'RE A FAILURE LIKE ME!



WHHAAP

AAAAEE!





NOO! you sonofabitch!
NOO!



NOOO! SMILEY?!
MY FRIEND...



YOU BRING
RODENTS INTO
MY HOUSE,
YOU LITTLE
@#%\$%!

DAD...
DADDY?
I --

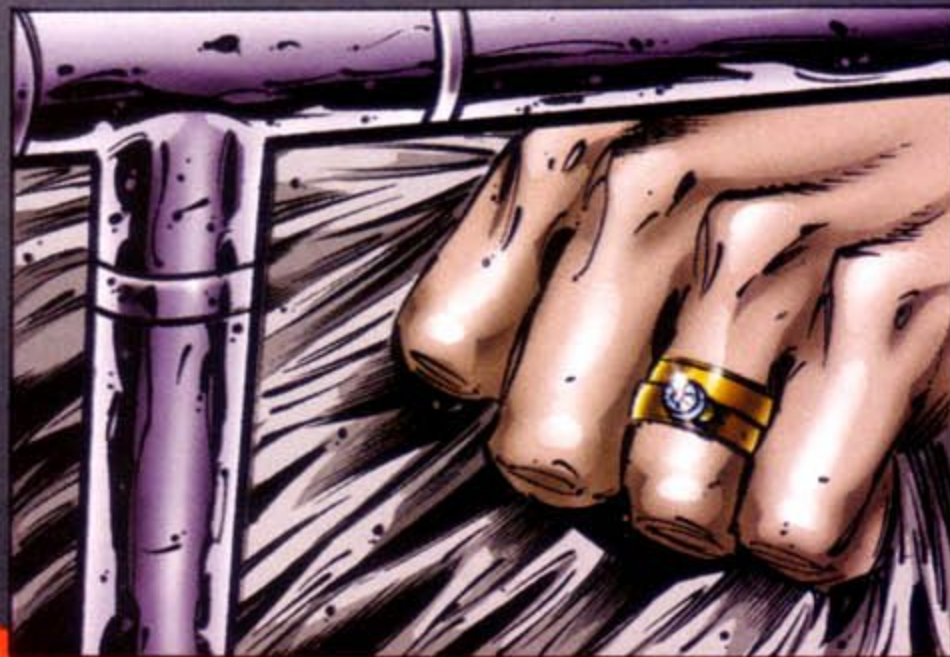
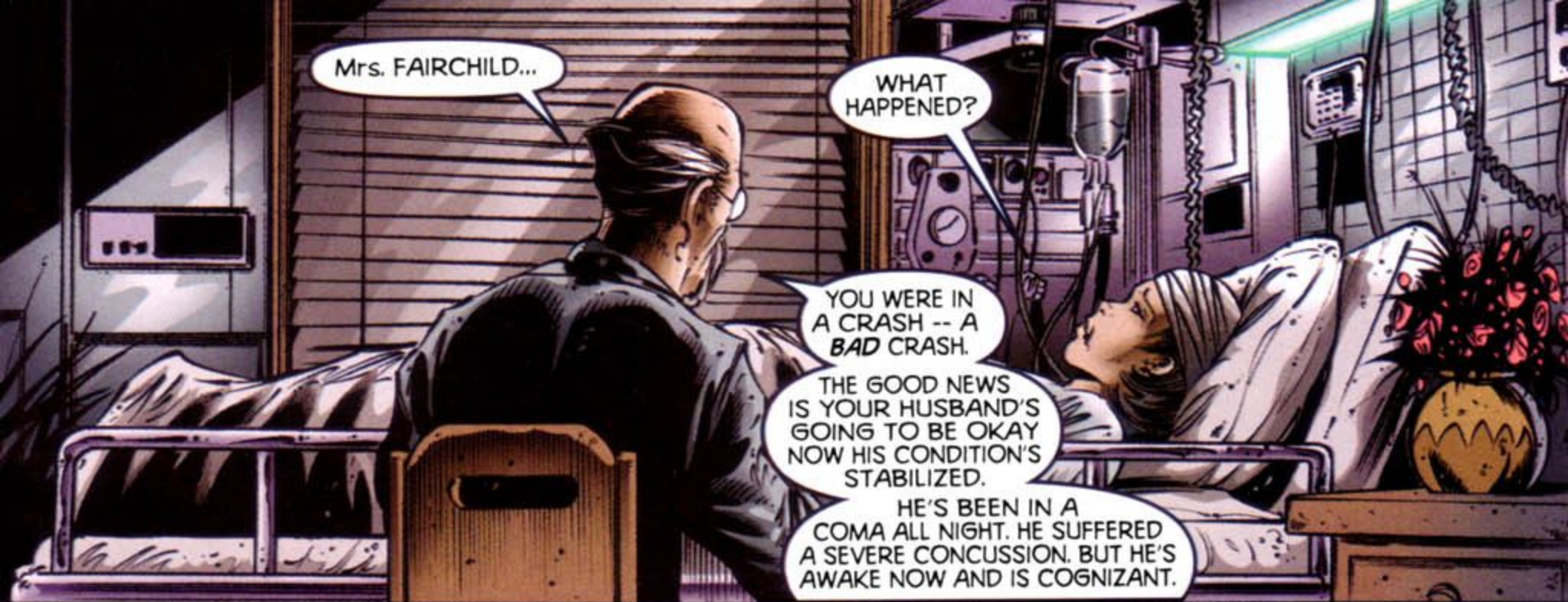


ENOUGH
OF THIS!
I NEED
A DRINK!

Oh
LORD!









What's happening, boss? I feel WEIRD!





EVIL?



Evil?
Boss?
Wake up,
Boss!



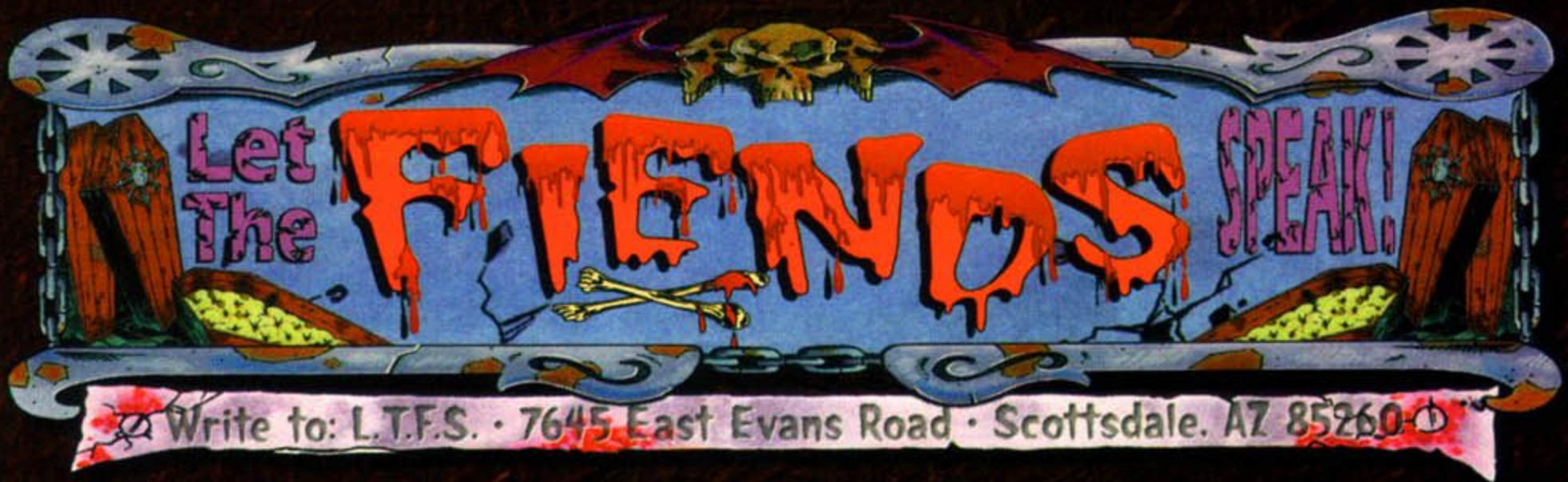
Wake
up, Evil.
PLEASE wake
up.

Evil?



Evil?
can you
hear
me?

Evil?



ATTENTION!

We interrupt our regularly scheduled letter column to present you with an invitation.

Here is your invite: From here on, in each letter column we will have a LETTER OF THE MONTH, which will be awarded with something cool like the latest, signed premium edition or a rare book of yesteryear. We reserve the right to pick the prize, but we guarantee we will make it cool and chaotic.

What makes up a letter of the month? An incisive letter that makes a relevant point, asks a demanding question, opens up a dialogue between us and you; a letter that fires everybody up and gets people talking. It can be about our comics, merchandise, our company, our customer service, whatever. It doesn't matter if it is good or bad or controversial as long as it is interesting.

What doesn't make up a letter of the month? A letter that is simply complimentary. Not that we don't dig those types of letters, they just don't make for interesting letters pages. We want thought provoking letters that ask questions that are begging to be answered, poignant statements that stimulate thought, challenges to our storylines, that kind of stuff.

Can you dig it? Good -- then sharpen those pencils and keyboards and get cookin'. Oh yeah, you can E-mail us too. Do so at service@chaoscomics.com.

Sworn to the black,

— Brian Pulido

CHECK OUT THIS FIENDISH ART
BY RONNIE ESPINOSA
ENTITLED "EVIL ERNIE 2000"
THANKS RONNIE!



NEXT ISSUE

In the face of events that transpire in the issue you're now reading, Evil Ernie metamorphizes. It's a whole new Evil! With his undead parents on the loose, Evil Ernie is losing control of his ability to shape reality, so reality shapes itself! Now, he must hunt down his alter ego, Ernest Fairchild, before he destroys him! But Evil Ernie is about to find out that he has allies in The Dead Onez, a cult of living dead obsessed California teens, who plan on becoming his elite disciples. It's Evil Ernie vs. Ernest Fairchild in a creepy story of twisted minds and depraved duality. Smiley the Psychotic Button is mad as hell! Who should he follow when Ernest Fairchild and Evil Ernie both walk the earth?



The IMPENDING CHAOS!

#12



YOUR MONTHLY NEWS SOURCE ON ALL THINGS CHAOS! - SEPTEMBER '98

From The Crypt

Architects of Armageddon, Part Two: The Mind-Fire

It wasn't going to be your business-as-usual plot summit. I knew it when the small black snake started answering Nutman's questions. It was too late to turn back, fiends-Brian Pulido, Philip Nutman, and David Quinn-that's me-were well into our journey of dark discovery.

If you read my journal in this space last month, you know the unholy trio. Brian's the Chaos! Main Man, our writer-slash-creator-slash-editor in chief. Sir Phil's the man behind The Omen, Evil Ernie, and Chastity: Rocked, and a full-throttle writer of other hardcore stuff. Me, I do Purgatori and Lady Death. I'm the new blood in these parts, but a veteran to you aficionados of comics with teeth.

And the journey? We walked into the desert, away from phones, fax machines, and all of civilization's brain-dead noise to brainstorm-to light a creative fire! We made a stand to discover and design 48 self-contained issues culminating in the Big One, CHAOS! ARMAGEDDON, December 1999! Then we'd walk back out of the desert to write the scripts.

Now some of you might need to deal with CHAOS! ARMAGEDDON for a second, here. What does that mean? The end of the world for Lady Death, Evil Ernie, Chastity, Purgatori, and all our favorites? Yes. And then what? Well, I swore on a burning stack of Faust. Act Fives not to tell ya. So follow this vision quest tale to its conclusion first, okay?

Arid heat rose all around us. The raw Arizona sun baked. We stripped off the outer clothing layers. We walked and talked. Pungent plants, skittering reptile life, and the whole wide-skied living desert weren't just our journey's backdrop-they were becoming our journey.

"Strange new territory, boys," Nutman said, passing the water bottle. "Let's ask questions at this point, guys-cluster ideas, jam, have fun-it's just the end of the world!" Pulido suggested, drinking and passing, too.

"It's a question of choice, for every character," I said, jumping right into storytelling. "I see mass temptation, Hell launching its marketing campaign, 'Embrace your Desire!'"

"Your young chief is right, Burning Man," came a voice from out of nowhere.

"What did you call me?" I said, almost spitting out the long drink of cool water I had just taken, shocked to see the ancient shaman. He seemed made out of well-tanned

leather stretched over bones. His eyes were clear, watery, and alive. There were no footprints around him.

"Elements forced into place are not your story, Burning Man. The story is trying to tell itself, in ways that are strong and true. You must listen."

Then he was gone. We sweated onward in eerie silence. Til we found the Medicine Wheel. Just as a coyote cried out, unseen, from distant hills.

Brian stepped into the wheel, circumscribed by small stones and bits of brush. "The original Trickster, the coyote," he said, with a laugh that was just one notch higher on the psychotic-meter than usual.

Brian was beginning to walk around the Medicine Wheel. No, he wasn't walking. He was dancing. "Armageddon is up for grabs!"

Nutman was quick to play along. "Tell me, Trickster God, who is the Chosen of Armageddon? What key to the unknown future is locked within this individual's soul? And if we blow up the whole damn thing, will the geeks at Wizard ever give us one tenth of the attention they give Green Frigging Lantern-AHHH!"

"What's up, Phil? You okay?"

"What bit my ankle, a scorpion or a snake? Look around!"

"When we first met your kind, lightning meant the difference between life and death to humans. Remember that at Armageddon--the gift of life!"

"Shut up, Quinn, and help me look for the slimy bugger!"

But I hadn't said anything. My sweat streamed. The sun melted my brain. I closed my eyes and saw fire, and looking through it, I saw the eyes of Purgatori, looking for her army. Then I noticed that the raspy little voicemaking that prophetic noise was a small black snake!

Phil stared at the snake. Brian, running toward the distant hills, mad joy personified, laughed the laugh of the Trickster God. "The nukes are flying," he screamed, "Make room for one more in the cosmic sandbox!" I was burning, I was burning, but I could see!

Now, fellow fiends, you know the outcome of our trek. We lived to write the tale. So be here next time to find out HOW we managed to RETURN WITH THE ELIXIR!

Burning in the Black,

 -David Quinn

The Low Down Lights, Camera, Auction!

How do you raise money for charity and treat Chaos! fanatics to a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity at the same time? By holding a charity auction featuring original artwork and scripts donated by Chaos! notables Steven Hughes, Justiniano, Kyle Hotz, Mike Deodato, Leonardo Jimenez, Al Rio, Jason Jensen, David Brewer, Phil Nutman, David Quinn, Hart Fisher, and, of course, President and Publisher Brian Pulido! The festivities took place at the annual Chicago Wizard Con and raised more than \$4000 for The Comic Book Legal Defense Fund and The Literacy Volunteers of America. Highlights of the evening included the cover to the upcoming Cremator #1, an autographed script to Lady Death #5, and a never-before-seen cover by Steven Hughes. The oddest item by far was a box of Rice-A-Roni autographed by Brian Pulido, which fetched a hefty \$150! No wonder it's the San Francisco treat.

Hughes Artwork Featured

Steven Hughes (Lady Death, Evil Ernie), Brian Stelfreeze (Batman: Shadow Of The Bat), Rob Stull (Homicide: Tears Of The Dead, Shi), and Mark Morales (Evil Ernie, Uncanny X-men) are just a few of the artists featured in Sequential Art: The Next Step 3, a traveling showcase for African-American comic book artists. The show, which premiered at the Museum of the National Center of Afro-American Artists in Boston, was most recently in Charlotte at Charlotte's Afro-American Cultural Center. For more information, call (617) 442-8614.

Feeling Chatty?

Want to express your opinion about Lady Death, Evil

Ernie, Chastity or any other Chaos! character? Then be sure to stop by the new, improved chat room section of our web site at www.chaoscomics.com. You can even chat with Chaos! writers Phil Nutman and David Quinn and President/Publisher Brian Pulido during their regularly scheduled chats. And you never know who else might be lurking in the shadows...

Date	Chat With	Subject
September 1st	David Quinn	Purgatori
September 8th	Phil Nutman	Evil Ernie
September 15th	Brian Pulido/Phil Nutman	Lady Death

Check the news section of our web site for late breaking chat updates!

Fiend Award Deadline

Calling all Fiends! The deadline for getting your submissions for the 1998 Fiend Awards to the palatial Chaos! offices is Thursday, October 15. What are the categories, you ask? Paintings, drawings, poems, videos, home-made action figures, tattoos, customized trucks, cars, or motorcycles, sculptures, banners, flags, and anything else you can think of. Send any entries to:

Fiend Award Submissions
7645 E. Evans Road
Suite 6
Scottsdale, AZ 85260

And now for the bad news. Anything you send in is ours forever! Ha! So if you want to keep it, you better send us pictures instead. And here's a little tip for all you amateur photographers out there...make sure we can actually see what's in the picture!

New Lady Death® Cards Coming!

Details are sketchy (get it? sketchy? I kill myself with this stuff!), but we can tell you that the newest series of Lady Death Trading Cards are set to ship this October. The set will consist of 100 base cards (featuring a state-of-the-art printing technique which combines premium holographic foil with stunning four-color graphics) and 9 elusive Silver Etch 'chase' cards imported from Japan! Artwork for these highly collectible cards will be provided by Steven Hughes, Mike Deodato, Al Rio, Louis Smalls

Jr., Mark Morales, and other hotter than hot artists! Evil Ernie fanatics should also be sure to keep an eye out for the bonus 9 card Evil Ernie Rules! subset. Tell your local comic store that you won't be denied!

A Major Undertaking

In case you missed the big announcement at the San Diego Comic Con, Chaos! Comics and the World Wrestling Federation have joined forces to bring you The Undertaker monthly comic series beginning March 1999. The series will be written by the legendary Beau Smith and will explore the adventures of "The Lord Of Darkness" as he battles his nemesis- Paul Bearer. Tell your local comic store to save your copies of The Undertaker and get ready for the knockout event of 1999!

The Return of Smiley™

Hot on the heels of his sold out summer special Dream A Little Dream, Smiley will return this December in the Smiley Anti-Holiday Special. Brought to you by writer Jesse McCann and illustrated by Ivan Reis, the same 'Dream' team which brought you Smiley's last adventure, the Anti-Holiday Special promises to provide a stocking full of twisted holiday cheer! Look for the Smiley: Anti-Holiday Special in both regular and extra-strength (a cool secret variant cover) at a comic shop near you this winter! Ho ho ho, boss!

Quick News

Chaos! Comics was the number five publisher of comics again in August. Don't forget to look for the Supernaturals from Chaos! President/Publisher Brian Pulido and Marvel Comics- shipping weekly in October. The Lady Death Sword is looking good for spring of 1999. If you were in line for autographs at either San Diego or Chicago, you know that Chaos! rules the conventions. Look for even more insane fun in 1999! It's the end of the world as we know it...Armageddon is only 14 months away. Chastity: Rocked, coming next month, will be followed closely by another Chastity mini-series next year. What's young, cute, undercover and coming to comic shelves near you in 1999? Stay tuned...

The Chaos! To Come Checklist

Enjoy life. Read comics more often! After all, who among us can get through the week without a certain amount of Chaos!? Be the first on your block to own the complete set of Chaos! Comics.

September '98

- Lady Death #9 \$2.95
- Evil Ernie #4 \$2.95
- Purgatori Monthly #1 \$2.95
- The Omen: Vexed - One Shot \$2.95

October '98

- Lady Death #10 \$2.95
- Evil Ernie #5 \$2.95
- Purgatori Monthly #2 \$2.95
- Chastity: Rocked #1 (of 4) \$2.95
- Supernaturals #1 (of 4)
- Supernaturals #2 (of 4)
- Supernaturals #3 (of 4)
- Supernaturals #4 (of 4)

November '98

- Purgatori #3 \$2.95
- Lady Death #11 \$2.95
- Evil Ernie #6 \$2.95
- Cremator #1 (OF 5) \$2.95
- Chastity: Rocked #2 (OF 4) \$2.95

FIEND ALERT

Notice Chaos! Comics selling out quickly? Want your Chaos! comics? **LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!** Pre-order Chaos! Comics at your local comic shop - or ask them to reserve you copies! New Policy - We print to order. No over runs. **DON'T MISS OUT!**

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CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE: www.chaoscomics.com
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CHAOS! COLLECTOR'S CORNER

7645 E. Evans Road • Suite 6
Scottsdale, AZ 85260

FIEND CLUB

7645 E. Evans Road • Suite 6
Scottsdale, AZ 85260